

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 05230 121805Z  
ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-10 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-07 DODE-00 ERDA-07  
FEA-01 AID-05 JUSE-00 PM-04 SP-02 SS-15 PRS-01  
/105 W

-----130238Z 040335 /72-61

R 121353Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2647

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 5230

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: TECH IN  
SUBJECT: TARAPUR

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION NEW DELHI FROM BOMBAY APR 12 REPEATED:

QUOTE

BOMBAY 0841

E. O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: TECH, IN  
SUBJ: TARAPUR

1. LEAD EDITORIAL IN APRIL 12TH ISSUE OF BOMBAY EDITION OF THE ECONOMIC TIMES IS ENTITLED "URANIUM FOR TARAPUR" AND ASSESSES PROSPECTS FOR SHIPMENT OF "LONG-DELAYED" 12 TONS OF ENRICHED URANIUM FOR TARAPUR IN THE LIGHT OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S NUCLEAR POLICY STATEMENT OF APRIL 7TH.

2. EDITORIAL NOTES THAT "AT PRESENT, THE UNITED STATES IS THE ONLY COUNTRY IN THE WORLD CAPABLE OF SUPPLYING ENRICHED URANIUM TO OTHER NATIONS ON A SUSTAINED BASIS," THE EDITORIAL STATES HOWEVER THAT PRESIDENT CARTER'S ANNOUNCEMENT  
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"IS NOT CLEAR AS TO WHETHER THE U.S. WOULD CONTINUE SUPPLYING ENRICHED URANIUM TO INDIA." ECONOMIC TIMES ECHOES THE GOI CONTENTION THAT IF THE 12 TONS OF ENRICHED URANIUM NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE NRC DOES NOT REACH INDIA BY MAY, THE OPERATION OF THE TARAPUR REACTORS WILL BE AFFECTED. IT GOES ON TO NOTE THAT U.S.-DESIGNED REACTORS SUCH AS THE ONE AT TARAPUR HAVE BEEN SOLD TO MANY COUNTRIES DURING THE

LAST DECADE ON A PROMISE OF AN UNINTERRUPTED SUPPLY OF FUEL FOR THE LIFETIME OF THE REACTORS. IT ALSO NOTES THAT "WE DID WELL IN NOT CHOOSING, EXCEPT AT TARAPUR, THE AMERICAN LIGHT-WATER REACTORS."

3. THE ARTICLE ALSO REPEATS A CONTENTION OFTEN EXPRESSED BY GOI OFFICIALS THAT THE PLUTONIUM PRODUCED AT TARAPUR "IS NOT SUITABLE FOR WEAPONS PRODUCTION AND EVEN PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS." IT ALSO NOTES THAT THE TARAPUR PLANT IS FULLY SAFEGUARDED BY THE IAEA AND THAT THE WASTE DISCHARGES CAN BE REPROCESSED ONLY UNDER THE JOINT CONSENT OF BOTH THE U.S. AND INDIA. IT FURTHER NOTES THAT "THE U.S. HAS NOT EVEN SHOWN THE WILLINGNESS TO BUY THE SPENT FUEL WHICH INDIA HAS OFFERED TO SELL."

4. IN CLOSING THE EDITORIAL NOTES THAT THE "AMERICAN PRESIDENT HAS SIGNIFICANTLY ANNOUNCED THAT HE WILL NOT IMPOSE HIS POLICY ON COUNTRIES WHICH DO NOT POSSESS SUFFICIENT OIL AND COAL AND HAVE DIFFERENT NEEDS. IT IS TO BE HOPED THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WOULD APPRECIATE THE CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES IN INDIA AND FULFILL ITS CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATION OF SUPPLYING UNINTERRUPTED ENRICHED URANIUM TO FUEL THE TARAPUR REACTORS."COURTNEY

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, NUCLEAR ENERGY, POLICIES, URANIUM  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Subject:** TARAPUR FOLLOWING SENT ACTION NEW DELHI FROM BOMBAY APR 12 REPEATED: QUOTE  
**TAGS:** TECH, IN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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